Tribal development proposals of Andhra Pradesh

270. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the latest status of the proposals for tribal development received from Government of Andhra Pradesh which are still pending for approval;

(b) the reasons for delay in clearing these proposals;

(c) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the details of the ongoing tribal development projects in the State along with those proposed to be implemented during the current year and the next?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (d) Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides financial assistance to State Governments for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry based on the allocation criteria prescribed under the guidelines. Funds are released subject to fulfillment of prescribed conditions which *inter alia* includes submission of utilization certificates for the fund released in previous years. the details of proposals received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 2007-08 are as under:

(i) Release of Rs. 600 lakh to Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd. (GCC), Visakhapatnam under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid to STDCCs etc. for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Operations;

(ii) Proposals under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution for an amount of Rs. 2599.76 lakh from Government of India.

The aforesaid proposals are processed as per prescribed procedure under the respective scheme/programme and funds and the timing of release is subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions. In case of 'Grant-in-Aid to STDCCs etc. for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Operations', the scheme is under review in the light of the instructions/ guidelines for continuation of the existing schemes during Eleventh Plan.

The State Government and Intergrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) implement a number of tribal development projects/ scheme in tribal areas for the welfare/ development of the Scheduled Tribes under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and details of such tribal development projects are not maintained in this Ministry.

New Anganwadi Centres

271. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) were to be sanctioned by December, 2008 and if so, whether only 10.53 lakh AWCs were sanctioned till 31st March, 2007;

(b) whether more than 2.72 lakhs of AWCs already sanctioned are not operational till date; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Apex Court has directed Government to operationalise the balance of sanctioned AWCs by 15th July, 2007; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to comply with the directives of the Apex Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court's directions of 13.12.2006, minimum of 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) are to be sanctioned and operationalized in a phased manner by December, 2008. It takes about one year from the date of sanction, for an Anganwadi Centre (AWC) to become operational. As on 31.03.2007, out of 10.53 lakh sanctioned AWCs, 8 45 lakh AWCs are fully functional. The reasons for the backlog are State specific and include delays in appointment of AWW's and AWH's, court cases etc.

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court in its Order of 9th July, 2007 directed all the States to operationalize the AWCs sanctioned upto September, 2006, by 15th July, 2007 with the exception of the State of Uttar Pradesh, who were directed to operationalize the AWCs by 31st July, 2007.

Following the directions, the States/UTs were addressed on 10.7.2007 to strictly adhere to the time-frame laid down by the Apex Court.

Guidelines to protect rights of Children

272. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has come out with detailed guidelines to protect and promote the rights of children following the killing of children in Nithari and constituted a five member committee to formulate guidelines to deal with the cases of missing children in an effective and meaningful manner;

(b) whether the committee has already submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the recommendations thereof; and

(e) by when the recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d) A copy of the gist of the report alongwith recommendations is available at the website of the National Human Rights Commission at www.nhrc.nic.in.

(e) The recommendations of the Report relate to several Ministries which are individually taking appropriate action. Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 for protection of children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. The Ministry is also implementing a programme for Juvenile Justice for establishment, upgradation and maintenance of various levels of institutions for juveniles. Child Line, a 24 hour emergency phone service is available for children in need of care and protection in emergency situations. In addition, the Ministry is also implementing a Scheme for welfare of working children in need of care and protection to provide non-formal education and vocational training.

Rehabilitation of children

273. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: